THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation was set up on September 30, 1994 with an authorised capital of Rs. 500 crore. This was to be contributed to the extent of 25% (Rs. 125 crore) by the Central Government and the balance 75% (Rs. 375 crore) by the State Governments.

(c) and (d) The entire share of the Central Government has already been provided to the Corporation as follows :-

(Rs. Crore)

1994-95		50
1995-96		39
1996-97		36
	Total	125

[English]

T and D Losses

5121. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether power equipments worth crores of rupees have been damaged due to wide fluctuations in the frequency of power transmission in the grid especially in the Eastern and Western sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry into the mismanagement in the grid operations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) As per the information available no damage of equipments due to wide frequency fluctuations in the Western Region has been reported.

As per the information available, certain equipments have been damaged due to high frequency operation of the Eastern Regional Power Grid. The details of damages are given below :

State/ System	Station	Unit	Capacity (MW)	Damage
1	2	3	4	5
DVC	Bokaro 'B'	2	210	Turbine blade failure
WBPDCL	Kolaghat	5	210	Turbine blade failure
WBPDCL	Kolaghat	3	210	Cracks in Brazing of lacing wires.
BSEB	Patratu	1&3	50	Turbine blade failure
		9	110	
CESC	South Gen. Stations	1	67.5	Turbine blade failure
DVC	Durgapur	4	210	Regulatory stage liner damage.

GRIDCO has also reported turbine failure in power stations of National Aluminium Ltd. (NALCO) & Indian Charge Chrome Ltd. (ICCL).

(c) and (d) Central Electricity Authority has set up an Enquiry Committee to look into various aspects of the problem and suggest remedial measures for avoiding recurrence of the problem. The Enquiry Committee has not yet submitted the report.

(e) High frequency operation of the Eastern Regional grid is mainnly due to a very low off-peack demand resulting in high peak/off-peak demand ratio. In order to export the off-peak surplus power from Eastern Region to the neighbouring regions, transfer of power from Eastern Region to North Eastern Region (Assam – 100 MW), Southern Region (Andhra Pradesh – 150 MW) has been arranged. Further for transfer of power from Eastern Region to Western Region (Madhya Pradesh – 150 MW) and to Northern Region (100 – 150 MW) action is in process. The Inter-Regional high voltage HVDC link between Eastern Region and Southern Region is under construction and will be ready by February, 1999. This will enable transfer of 500 MW additional power from Eastern Region to Southern Region. To augment the transfer of surplus power from Eastern Region to North Eastern Region, Powergrid is executing 400 KV double circuit line between Bongaigaon (NER) and Malda (ER). Construction of this line is expected to be completed in a year. This will enable exchange of 700 – 800 MW power between Eastern Region and North Eastern Region.

Member (Grid Operation), Central Electricity Authority has also written to all the Chairman of the constituent utilities in the Eastern Region to ensure proper load management for maintaining the frequency within permissible limits.

Haj Goodwill Team

5122. SHRI DARBARA SINGH :
COL. RAO RAM SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a good number of Haj returnees have levelled allegations on "goodwill team" sent to Mina for not caring for the victims and instead demanding cars, escorts and special food for themselves;

(b) if so, whether any high level enquiry into the said affairs has been conducted by the Government;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Government has not received complaints from Haj returnees against the goodwill team.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Reservation for OBCs

5123. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any special drive to fill up the vacancies reserved for backward classes,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the efforts made by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) As the scheme for reservation for OBCs was introduced only in September, 1993, no need has been felt to launch special drive to fill up the vacancies reserved for backward classes. Instructions already exist for expeditious filling up of vacancies reserved for other backward classes by cadre controlling authorities, which is a continuous process.

[English]

Power Tariff

5124. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the guidelines laid down by the Government in regard to power tariff for private power sector,

(b) whether the power generated in private sector in the country is costlier than that of the power generated in public sector, and

(c) if so, the details and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Central Government has issued a Tariff Notification No. S.O. 251 (E) dated 30th March, 1992 (as amended from time to time) in accordance with which the tariff for sale of electricity by Generating Company to the Boards and to other persons shall be fixed.

(b) No, Sir. The Government of India Tariff Notification is applicable to any Generating Company, either in Public Sector or in Private Sector, whose financial packages are approved on or after 30th March, 1992. The tariff of a power station is dependent upon its approved completed cost, type, price and source of fuel, taxes & duties and year of completion and not on whether established in public or private sector.

(c) Does not arise.

Modification of Recognition Rules

5125. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the modifications in the new recognition rules to decide the representatives of Union/Association in Central Services for grant of recognition;

(b) whether the Government propose to negotiate with the unions on the issue before implementation of new recognition rules; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) To decide the representatives of Union/Association for grant of recognition, the following conditions have been prescribed in Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Association) Rules, 1993;

(i) In order to obtain recognition, an Association must represent a minimum of 35% of total number of a category of employees provided further that in cases where there is only one association which commands more than 35% membership another association with second highest membership, may also be recognised if it commands at least 15% membership of the specific category of employees.

(ii) The verification of membership is done by the check-off system under which the membership subscription is deducted from the pay rolls of the employees based on their written declaration.

(b) and (c) No, Sir, the process of recognition is under way in various Departments,and, infact some associations have already been recognised under the new Rules.

[Translation]

Setting up of Atomic Power Project at Narayanganj

5126. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether site was examined by investigating team in 1984 for setting up a Central Atomic Power Plant at Narayanganj (Patha) in Mandala district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the team has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE